

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission Recreational Offshore Landing Permit (LAC 76:VII.377)

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to amend a Rule, LAC 76:VII.377, modifying existing Recreational Offshore Landing Permit regulations by exempting minors under the age of sixteen. Changes to the rule also add language that was not published in a previously rule modification that allowed exemptions for passengers on a charter for hire trip. Authority for adoption of this Rule is included in R.S. 56:6(34). Said Rule is attached to and made part of this Notice of Intent.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Notice of Intent and the Final Rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the Fiscal and Economic Impact Statements, the filing of the Notice of Intent and Final Rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Title 76 WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishery

377. Recreational Offshore Landing Permit

A. Any person, except those persons under the age of sixteen that are not normally required to obtain a license for saltwater fishing privileges, possessing any one of the following fish species or species groups on board a vessel taken from within or without Louisiana territorial waters shall be required to have obtained and have in their immediate possession a recreational offshore landing permit. Any person on a trip aboard a charter vessel, who pays a fee for that trip, is not required to have this permit, but the permit is required for the captain of that charter vessel. The recreational offshore landing permit shall be available for inspection by a duly authorized agent of the department:

1. Highly migratory species:

- a. tunas—bluefin, albacore, yellowfin, skipjack, bigeye, blackfin;
- b. billfish—blue marlin, white marlin. sailfish and longbill spearfish;
- c. swordfish;

2. Reef fish species:

- a. any species of snapper;
- b. any species of amberjack;
- c. any species of grouper or hind.

3. Pelagics:

- a. any species of dolphinfish;
- b. cobia;
- c. wahoo.

B. Permits may be obtained at no cost, from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, or authorized method, by persons who hold any valid license authorizing the taking and possessing of saltwater species of fish. Permits shall be valid for the same duration as the annual license authorizing saltwater fishing privileges. For those licenses that do not have to be renewed every year, the permit ~~shall be valid for one year from the date it was obtained~~ must be renewed annually, and shall be valid for the same time period as annual licenses.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6(34).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 38:3249 (December 2012), amended LR 40:94 (January 2014), LR 41_____.

Family Impact Statement

In accordance with Act 1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972 (B) .

Poverty Impact Statement

The proposed Rule should not have any known or foreseeable impact on any child, individual or family as defined by R.S. 49:973.B. In particular, there should be no known or foreseeable effect on:

- 1. the effect on household income, assets, and financial security;
- 2. the effect on early childhood development and preschool through postsecondary education development;
- 3. the effect on employment and workforce development;
- 4. the effect on taxes and tax credits;

5. the effect on child and dependent care, housing, health care, nutrition, transportation, and utilities assistance.

Public Comments

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed Rule to: Jason Adriance, Fisheries Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, or via e-mail to: jadriance@wlf.la.gov prior to Thursday, February 5, 2015.

Billy Broussard, Chairman
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission